VISUAL POETRY

BILL BARRETT

June 1, 2016 through May 14, 2017

Santa Fe BOTANICAL GARDEN

at Museum Hill
715 Camino Lejo
Santa Fe, NM 87505
505-471-9103
www.santafebotanicalgarden.org

PINNACLE XIX
9ftH x 4ft 8inW x 4ftD
fabricated bronze
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Visual Poetry:
Bill Barrett Sculpture

Consider Bill Barrett’s artwork as an invitation for a private conversation, a thoughtful dialog with you, the viewer. Barrett is a one of the most celebrated modernist artists working today. With passion and diligence he has developed his singular artistic vision for over sixty years. The sculptures within this exhibition were created over a forty-year period. However, a stylistic kinship evolves through these abstractions in aluminum, steel, bronze and marble, and yet an individual presence emerges within each one. Calligraphic motifs reveal a kinetic language, a visual poetry of form, structure, negative space and rhythm.

Translating Barrett’s narrative is an individual experience. You are essential to the story and completion of the circle that exists between artwork and viewer. At the Santa Fe Botanical Garden, the artistic conversation takes place within an ever-changing natural setting of earth, sky, light, plants, stone, wind, fragrance and sound. Embrace the dynamic flow of Barrett’s emotional, gestural works in harmony with these changing natural surroundings.

These works result from contrasting inspirations including the 9/11 attacks, modern dance, musical influences, the panoply of human emotions, and nature’s richness. Barrett balances his life in New York City with time spent among the beautiful light, vistas and palette of Santa Fe. These diverse locations inform and inspire his creative journey in both two and three-dimensional works of art. Bill Barrett’s works can be seen in Santa Fe at LewAllen Galleries, www.lewallencontemporary.com, and on his website at www.billbarrettsculpture.com.

The Santa Fe Botanical Garden appreciates the opportunity to share Bill Barrett’s lyrical and inspiring artworks with our audiences through May 14, 2017. Be sure to rediscover the visual poetry of these beautiful works through the changing seasons. Fine art experienced within nature has the power to inspire generations. Now, go explore your own conversation with these works. Enjoy the journey.

Clayton Bass,
CEO & Curator Visual Poetry: Bill Barrett Sculpture
IRIS II  fabricated bronze  2008
90inH x 54inW x 30inD
LV fabricated aluminum  1976
49inH x 27inW x 17inD
EN POINTE III fabricated bronze  2000
78inH x 55inW x 30inD
STARGATE IV  fabricated bronze  2000
5ft 6inH x 4ftW x 3ft 7inD
FROM THE HEART  fabricated bronze  2003
56inH x 43inW x 32inD
DNA V fabricated bronze 2013
5ft 9inH x 76inW x 30inD (on base 9inH)
LIBRETTA  fabricated bronze and stainless steel  2007
9ft 6inH x 8ftW x 4ft 3inD
PINNACLE XIX  fabricated bronze  2010
8ftH x 4ft 8inW x 4ftD
SOJOURNER  fabricated bronze  2013
11ftH x 9ftW x 8ftD
LEXEME I  fabricated bronze  2006
63inH x 51inW x 39inD (base 8in x 4ft x 28in)
LEXEME VIII  Carrara marble  2007
5ft 6inH x 4ftWx 3ftD
BILL’S COMB fabricated bronze 2003
5ft 7inH x 8ft 6inW x 5ftD
LEXICON VIII  fabricated bronze and stainless steel  2007
48inH x 57inW x 36inD
FLICKA cast bronze (unique) 2007
28inH x 27inW x 6in
*LEXICON II* fabricated bronze and stainless steel  2007
10ftH x 8ft 6inW x 6ftD
LYRIC (SOJOURNER #VII) fabricated bronze 2013
7ftH x 4ft 9inW x 3ftD
Hailing from the second-generation of American metal sculptors, Bill Barrett is one of the most talented and prolific artists working today. For over sixty years, he has wielded bronze, steel, and marble to create dynamic, abstract sculptures. With studios in both New York City and Santa Fe, Barrett is presently expanding his extensive oeuvre to include an impressive body of bright, energetic paintings. His lyrical, abstract sculptures are available in three sizes—small cast bronze models, mid-size, and large-scale—so as to accommodate varying interests and budgets. Barrett’s work can be found in private and public collections worldwide, including the Utsukushi-ga-Hara Open Air Museum in Tokyo, Japan. He has been collected by such notable companies as Belz Enterprises, Portman Corporation, Hitachi Corporation, Four Seasons Hotel, and Neiman-Marcus, to name a few. The University of Michigan and Michigan State University have both commissioned a number of Barrett's large sculptures for their permanent collections. His one-man shows include an exhibition at Grounds for Sculpture in 2000, and an exhibition of bronze models and vibrant paintings at Iowa State University Museum in Ames, Iowa.

In 2011, Barrett was included in a painting and sculpture group show at Walter Bischof’s Villa Haiss in Zell, Germany. A large Carrara marble sculpture, eleven feet in height, was permanently placed on the campus at Purdue University in Westville, Indiana in 2014, commemorating the tragic events of 911, which occurred in New York City, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. The Louis and Beatrice Laufer Center for Physical and Quantitative Biology at Stony Brook University acquired a large eleven foot tall bronze wall relief for their new Science Center. Over six bronze sculptures by Barrett have been acquired for indoor and outdoor installations by the Dell Foundation in Austin, Texas. Bill Barrett has sculptures and paintings in private collections in London, across the United States, Italy, Germany, Japan and Bulgaria. When considering Bill Barrett’s extensive exhibition record and celebrated career, the Visual Poetry exhibition at the Santa Fe Botanical Garden is his first major exhibition in a botanical garden setting. This exciting next step in Barrett’s artistic journey opens a compelling new chapter in his story. The Santa Fe Botanical Garden appreciates the creative collaboration of Bill and Debora Barrett in preparation for sharing these inspiring works with thousands of viewers in the coming year.